

Abraham Lincoln papers

From A. W. Spies to William H. Seward, September 24, 1862

Rec'd 25. Septr New York 24 Sept. 1862

Dear Sir

I enclose a piece taken from the Express of yesterday, and ask how, is rebellion to be crushed while such insulting traitorous papers are allowed to be freely circulated among the people?— Each of whom from this example may denounce every lawful act of the Government

This and some other papers, select from foreign & from rebel papers & print all such articles as will cause dissatisfaction among the people, Giving the key note to all persons in favor of rebellion & shewing them just how far they may go, insulting all the officers of Govt, and not be molested

Tens of thousands in New York now stand ready to enter the printing establishments of several papers and break the heads of the editors, and are only restrained by its unlawfulness and are waiting for our weak & pukish Govt to do the needful to them

What we do should now be done quickly

The people are determined this war shall be ended within 6 mos or there will be trouble in the camp, no compromise! Your ancient friend must be hung or expatriate themselves, and the traitors (small fry) be subjugated

Lincoln cannot save his dear Kentuck (a mean on the fence state) let her be skinned a little

The Negroes are free now propectively, Slavery has received its death blow, Congress will do justice to both slave & master—

The Idea of colonization is a humbug & cheat— Does Mr. Lincoln think the country can afford to part with 2. millions of able bodied citizens, worth to the country \$1 per day each, or a principal of \$5000. ea, or say Ten thousand millions.

Each nigger will have 3 planters hanging to his coat tail to keep him — here.

—I am off the track—

The Express is supported by New York secesh and caters for them. Bennet¹ half the time is Secesh and works for any that will pay.

1 Probably a reference to James Gordon Bennett

I can only say—

You cannot crush the Rebels south until you strike a blow & a hard one at the northern papers rendering aid & comfort to rebels—

They are constantly telling of the progress of enlistments, the building of vessels, — dimensions, the number of our men — and their morale—

Take all that we have, but save the country entire

Resp yrs in haste

A W. Spies